AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the present application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remains under examination in the application are presented below. The claims are presented in ascending order and each includes one status identifier. Those claims not cancelled or withdrawn but amended by the current amendment utilize the following notations for amendment: 1. deleted matter is shown by strikethrough; and 2. added matter is shown by underlining.

1. (Currently Amended) A medicament for the treatment or prevention of diseases due to infection by Neisseria meningitidis, characterized in that it comprises:

glycoconjugates [[and/]]or lipooligosaccharides (LOS) purified or included in outer membrane vesicles, blebs, lipid layers, liposomes and/or killed bacteria from commensal Moraxella catarrhalis with cross-reactive antigens to Neisseria meningitidis of the serogroup A, B, C, H, I, K, L, X, Y, Z, 29E or W135, or non-capsulated meningococcal strains, or

~~and/or~~ antibodies against such glycoconjugates [[and/]]or lipooligosaccharides.

2. (Original) The medicament of claim 1, wherein the cross-reactive antigens to Neisseria meningitidis are oligosaccharides of LOS, which are cross-reactive with human blood group antigens.

3. (Currently Amended) A medicament for the treatment or prevention of diseases due to infection by Neisseria meningitides, characterized in that it comprises:

glycoconjugates [[and/]]or lipooligosaccharides (LOS) purified or included in outer membrane vesicles, blebs, lipid layers, liposomes [[and/]]or killed bacteria from commensal Neisseria lactamica with cross-reative antigens to Neisseria Meningtides of the serogroup B,

C, H, I, K, L, X, Y, Z, 29E or W135, or non-capsulated meningococcal strains, wherein the cross-reactive antigens to Neisseria meningitides are oligosaccharides of LOS, which are cross-reactive to human blood group antigens, [[and/]]or antibodies against such oligosaccharides of LOS.

4. (Currently Amended) The medicament of claim 1~~ or 3~~, characterized in that the glycoconjugates [[and/]]or lipooligosaccharides are chemically modified, conjugated [[and/]]or hydrolyzed, preferably by mild acid hydrolysis.

5. (Currently Amended) The medicament of claim 1~~ or 3~~, preferably for the treatment of acute meningitis or septicaemia, characterized in that the antibodies are monoclonal or polyclonal, and that they are obtain from commensal [[and/]]or meningococcal species from:

virus immortalized human lymphocytes secreting the glycoconjugate neutralizing, specific or cross-reactive antibodies,

from human lymphocytes secreting the neutralizing antibodies fused with a human hybridoma cell line,

from immunized animals, preferably mice, rats, rabbits or pigs producing polyclonal serum against such antibodies, or

from immunized animals, preferably mice, rats, rabbits or pigs, after fusion of the mouse lymphocytes with a human or animal hybridoma cell line.

6. (Currently Amended) The medicament of claim 1~~ or 3~~, characterized in that it is a vaccine.

7. (Currently Amended) The medicament of claim 1~~ or 3~~, characterized in that it is provided as a nasal/oral spray, as a liquid for injection, as an orally applied capsule or tablet [[and/]]or in combination with an adjuvant.

8. (Currently Amended) The medicament of claim 1~~ or 3~~ for the treatment of acute meningitis or septicaernia, and/or passive immunisation [[and/]]or protection of close contacts [[and/]]or susceptible individuals, characterized in that the antibodies are monoclonal or polyclonal, and that they are obtained from commensal [[and/]]or meningococcal species, [[and/]]or native [[and/]]or toxin-conjugated, [[and/]]or adjuvant supplemented human blood group antigens (sialylated and non-sialylated forms of P, pK, paragloboside, Ii, Lewis):

from virus immortalized human lymphocytes secreting the glycoconjugate neutralizing, specific [[and/]]or cross-reactive antibodies,

isolated from human serum [[and/]]or plasma, [[and/]]or human breast milk, [[and/]]or human secretions (i.e. saliva),

from human lymphocytes secreting the neutralizing antibodies,

from human lymphocytes secreting the neutralizing antibodies fused with a human or animal hybridoma cell line,

from immunized animals, preferably mice, rats, rabbits, or pigs producing polyclonal serum against such antigens, or

from immunized animals, preferably mice, rats, rabbits, or pigs after fusion of the animal lymphocytes with a human or animal hybridoma cell line.

9. (Currently Amended) The medicament of claim 1~~any one of the claims 1 to 8~~, characterized in that the antibodies are of the classes IgA_1, IgA_2, IgD, IgG_1, IgG_2, IgG_3, IgG_4, IgM, and/or IgE, that are secreted [[and/]]or membrane bound to human or animal cells, [[and/]]or to artificial membranes [[and/]]or liposomes.

10. (Currently Amended) The medicament of claim 1~~any one of the claims 1 to 9~~ for passive immunisation, characterized that it is provided as a nasal, oral or mucosal spray [[and/]]or tincture, as a liquid for injection, as an orally applied capsule or tablet [[and/]]or in combination with sodium selenite [[and/]]or with an adjuvant.

11. (Currently Amended) The medicament for passive immunisation with antibodies of claim 1~~any one of the claims 1 to 10~~, characterized that it is applied in combination with or without sodium selenite, or that sodium selenite is used as an agent for the treatment [[and/]]or protection of meningococcal disease without the medicament of claim 4, [[and/]]or prior to the application of the medicament of claim 4, [[and/]]or parallel to the application of the medicament of claim 4, [[and/]]or after to the application of the medicament of claim 4.

12. (Currently Amended) A diagnostic to assess the susceptibility of patients for diseases due to Neisseria meningitidis, characterized in that it comprises glycoconjugates [[and/]]or lipooligosaccharides from commensal bacteria with cross-reactive antigens to Neisseria lactamica or Moraxella catarrhalis and/or antibodies against such glycoconjugates [[and/]]or lipooligosaccharides [[and/]]or oligosaccharides of LOS of claim 1~~any of the claims 1 to 11~~.

13. (New) The medicament of claim 3, characterized in that the glycoconjugates or lipooligosaccharides are chemically modified, conjugated or hydrolyzed, preferably by mild acid hydrolysis.

14. (New) The medicament of claim 3, preferably for the treatment of acute meningitis or septicaemia, characterized in that the antibodies are monoclonal or polyclonal, and that they are obtain from commensal or meningococcal species from:

virus immortalized human lymphocytes secreting the glycoconjugate neutralizing, specific or cross-reactive antibodies,

from human lymphocytes secreting the neutralizing antibodies fused with a human hybridoma cell line,

from immunized animals, preferably mice, rats, rabbits or pigs producing polyclonal serum against such antibodies, or

from immunized animals, preferably mice, rats, rabbits or pigs, after fusion of the mouse lymphocytes with a human or animal hybridoma cell line.

15. (New) The medicament of claim 3 for the treatment of acute meningitis or septicaemia, or passive immunisation or protection of close contacts or susceptible individuals, characterized in that the antibodies are monoclonal or polyclonal, and that they are obtained from commensal or meningococcal species, or native or toxin-conjugated, or adjuvant supplemented human blood group antigens (sialylated and non-sialylated forms of P, pK, paragloboside, Ii, Lewis):

from virus immortalized human lymphocytes secreting the glycoconjugate neutralizing, specific and/or cross-reactive antibodies,

isolated from human serum or plasma, or human breast milk, or human secretions (i.e. saliva),

from human lymphocytes secreting the neutralizing antibodies,

from human lymphocytes secreting the neutralizing antibodies fused with a human or animal hybridoma cell line,

from immunized animals, preferably mice, rats, rabbits, or pigs producing polyclonal serum against such antigens, or

from immunized animals, preferably mice, rats, rabbits, or pigs after fusion of the animal lymphocytes with a human or animal hybridoma cell line.

16. (New) The medicament of claim 3, characterized in that it is a vaccine.

17. (New) The medicament of claim 3, characterized in that it is provided as a nasal/oral spray, as a liquid for injection, as an orally applied capsule or tablet or in combination with an adjuvant.

18. (New) The medicament of claim 3, characterized in that the antibodies are of the classes IgA_1, IgA_2, IgD, IgG_1, IgG_2, IgG_3, IgG_4, IgM, and/or IgE, that are secreted or membrane bound to human or animal cells, or to artificial membranes or liposomes.

19. (New) The medicament of claim 3 for passive immunisation, characterized that it is provided as a nasal, oral or mucosal spray or tincture, as a liquid for injection, as an orally applied capsule or tablet or in combination with sodium selenite or with an adjuvant.